
15. Amended A pharmaceutical dosage unit comprising a first pharmaceutical

composition comprising at least one of α -ketoglutarate and α -ketoglutaric acid in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and being devoid of ammonium, and a second pharmaceutical composition comprising ammonium in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and being devoid of α -ketoglutarate and α -ketoglutaric acid, the total amount of the at least one of α -ketoglutarate and α -ketoglutaric acid and the ammonium being effective to preserve skeletal muscle, and wherein the amount administered of said at least one of α -ketoglutarate and α -ketoglutaric acid is from $0.02 \mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$ to $30 \mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$ and the amount of infusion administered of NH_4^+ is from $0.5 \mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$ to $20 \mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$.
